

NEWS

Faith Renewed With Pope Francis In The Sun

Continued from Page 1

sharing it with others around us.

Another highlight for me was the catechesis sessions, attended by around 1,000 other English-speaking pilgrims. This gave us a chance to meet others from around the world and talk about our faith. It also offered an opportunity to learn more about our faith through the talks.

Each was led by inspirational individuals, including Bishop Edward Burns from the Diocese of Dallas and Bishop Alan Williams of Brentwood Diocese. The sessions were followed by a Mass together with the other English-speaking pilgrims. We also attended a reconciliation service, which gave us an opportunity to go to confession.

I mustn't forget to mention how friendly and welcoming the locals were to us. As we walked around as a group with our Union Jack flag, many of the passing cars honked their horns and waved to us. Even when crossing the roads, cars would stop for us and local cafés left free water out for us to drink in the boiling heat.

To sum up, World Youth Day has definitely strengthened my faith, by seeing so many other young Catholics from around the world who share the same beliefs as I do. I was inspired by the words from Pope Francis and learnt more about my faith through the



The Middlesbrough group, with Michael on the extreme left

catechesis sessions.

Finally, I had the privilege of meeting others from around the world and formed many new friendships with others from our diocese.

I would definitely recommend World Youth Day to anyone who has the chance to go –

it's an experience you will never forget. I've already started a countdown for WYD Portugal in 2022!

*Father Phil adds: "We were blessed to have Barney Ord with us and I would like to thank him for helping us organise this pilgrimage

and for all the generous support offered to our youth service."

*Follow @MYMissionTeam on Twitter and look out for news of more social media accounts coming soon!

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Bishop's Column

persons like to look at young people with God's eyes?

Jesus reveals the *now* of God, who comes to meet us and calls us to take part in his now of 'proclaiming good news to the poor ... bringing liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, setting at liberty those who are oppressed, announcing the year of the Lord's favour' (Lk 4:18-19). It becomes present with Jesus: it has a face, it is flesh. It is a merciful love that does not wait for ideal or perfect situations. In Jesus, the promised future begins and becomes life. When? Now. You, dear young people, are not the future. No, you are the present, you are the *now of God*.

Brothers and sisters, the Lord and his mission are not something temporary, they are not only for World Day of Youth, they are our life today, our life of journeying ahead!

In a special way throughout these days, Mary's *fiat* has been whispering like a kind of music in the background. She believed God himself and dared to say 'yes'. May you feel that you have a mission, may you fall in love; the Lord will decide everything.

Do not forget that you are not the tomorrow; you are the *now of God*.

Go back to your parishes and communities, to your families and your friends, and share what you have lived, so that others can resonate with the strength and concrete enthusiasm that is yours. And with Mary, keep saying 'yes' to the dream that God has sown in you.

And, please, do not forget to pray for me."

Yours in blessed hope,

Offering Hope To The Homeless

Continuing our regular series focusing on some of the groups that form Caritas Middlesbrough and are engaged in social outreach, Positive Pathways development worker TERRY DOYLE tells us about his important work...

Middlesbrough MP Andy McDonald recently visited the St John Paul Centre in the heart of the town.

The centre is owned by the Diocese of Middlesbrough and is emerging as a real hub for helping some of our most marginalised adults.

Andy visited the Upper Room project, which is run by brilliant volunteers every Saturday. It has been going for decades, feeding around 60 vulnerable people each week. He described how he went home and wept at what he had witnessed, the numbing reality of people living such desperate lives here in the town he represents in parliament.

Maybe part of the solution to what Andy witnessed is under the same roof, namely the Positive Pathways Project, managed by homelessness charity Depaul UK, and working alongside the Church Urban Fund's Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland.

Positive Pathways staff and volunteers work in partnership with Middlesbrough Homelessness Forum and a wide array of statutory and voluntary support agencies to provide one-to-one relational support to people who are experiencing issues with homelessness, addiction, mental health, isolation and loneliness.

The Positive Pathways vision is to not only meet the individual's immediate needs but also work out a holistic support package to break the cycle of homelessness and related causative factors. By building therapeutic relationships with individuals, we can develop the trust needed to help build confidence and resilience, alongside more practical skills such as budgeting that all contribute to

empowering the people Andy met. We want people to feel a greater sense of belonging in the town we all love and share.

We should never underestimate the power of listening to people whose lives are in some way broken. Whether someone is dirty, dishevelled and smelly through sleeping rough on our streets or has different colour skin and is destitute, as dozens of asylum seekers whose applications have failed through no fault of their own are, whether someone is lonely and isolated or suffering from mental health issues such as anxiety and depression, these are all people who Pope Francis is encouraging us to "accompany", to get to know, to acknowledge, to take the time to listen to, even if we initially feel like backing away.

Positive Pathways and other projects working out of the John Paul Centre offer hope to those most marginalised within our society who are often facing the most trying of circumstances. We must all remember that there but for the grace of God go I. We can all make a valuable contribution to making someone living outside of the mainstream feel more valuable as a fellow human being.

Those people who receive a hand up will, in turn, extend their hand to others. This is what our faith calls us to and, in particular, Catholic Social Teaching and the work of our Caritas team are helping to embody the radical yet simple message of Jesus to welcome the stranger and to love everyone, and not just



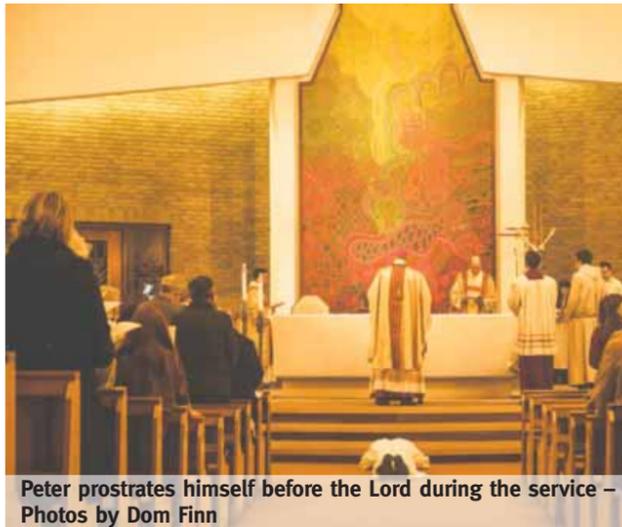
Positive Pathways development worker Terry Doyle

those who are easy to like.

Might you have some time or skills to enhance our work? Please contact Positive Pathways on 01642 249782 or email Positive.Pathways@depaulcharity.org.uk.

If you would like to advertise please contact Charlotte Rosbrooke on 07932 248225 or email charlotter@cathcom.org

Thankful For The Gift Of Grace



Peter prostrates himself before the Lord during the service – Photos by Dom Finn

For men on the road to priesthood, ordination as a deacon is an important and final step on the journey. Normally this takes place in the seminary in which the student is studying – in my case, the Venerable English College Rome.

However, having finished my initial studies in Rome over the last five years, Bishop Terry decided I should spend some time in a parish before my ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood. So my ordination took place in our own cathedral on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Having been a parishioner of the parish of St Thérèse of Lisieux in Ingleby Barwick for almost my entire life, the prospect of having my ordination in the cathedral meant I could share this important milestone with my family, friends and, importantly, the people of the diocese.

I was delighted to see contingents from Rome, including the rector of the English College, Monsignor Philip Whitmore, a large contingent from Hull, from Ingleby Barwick, other parts of England and, of course, the parishioners of the cathedral parish.

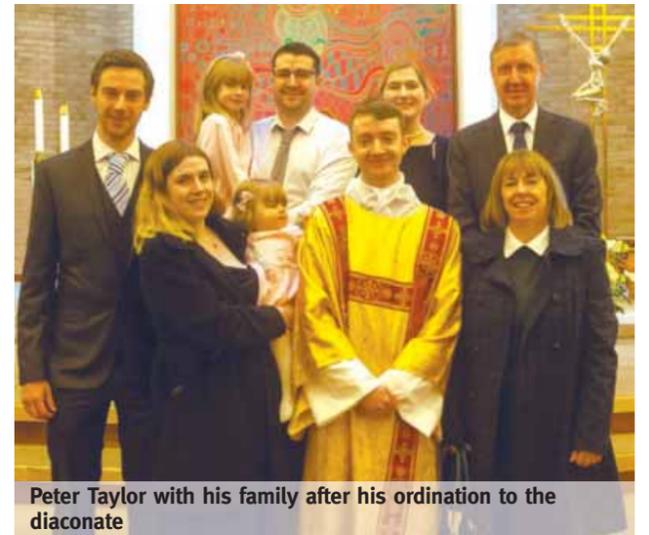
To say I was nervous before the ordination would be something of an understatement and throughout the Mass I was constantly thinking about what I needed to do next.

After the ordination, however, I began to appreciate those grace-filled moments more deeply. There are several striking moments of the ordination rite, but one I have always found the most moving is when the candidate prostrates himself before the altar while the litany of saints is sung.

Although when you are in the moment you realise that lying down on the floor for any length of time is incredibly uncomfortable, prostrating yourself before the Lord and asking for the saintly intercessions is an incredibly poignant sign of the weakness and frailty of humanity before him.

In prostrating ourselves we recognise that, as Bishop Terry said in his homily, “All is grace, all is gift.”

Returning to the parish where I am based, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Channel in Hull, formerly under the care of the Marist Fathers, and from there going on to World Youth Day in Panama, there have been many moments that have led



Peter Taylor with his family after his ordination to the diaconate

me to reflect on this phrase.

From preaching for the first time at Mass as a deacon to giving benediction to our World Youth Day pilgrims in Panama and deaconing the English catechesis Masses for the English-speaking pilgrims from around the world, it is indeed all grace and gift.

For all those graces and gifts, I thank Almighty God, and all those who have supported me with their prayers and encouragement throughout these years and into the future when, God willing, I will be ordained priest.

Our Lady of Grace, pray for us.

Deacon Peter Taylor

Study Day Explores Pope’s Vision For Missionary Parishes

Bishop Terry is inviting clergy and lay-faithful to a study day to explore Pope Francis’ vision of what the Church needs to be both now and in the future.

Priests and deacons and two specially chosen representatives from each parish in the diocese will be asked to take up the Holy Father’s challenge to be missionary disciples in missionary parishes in a missionary Church.

The speaker is Father Eamon Mulcahy CSSp, who has led spiritual retreats for priests, religious and lay-people all around the world, including our own Scripture Festival last spring.

Bishop Terry intends the day to begin a process that will

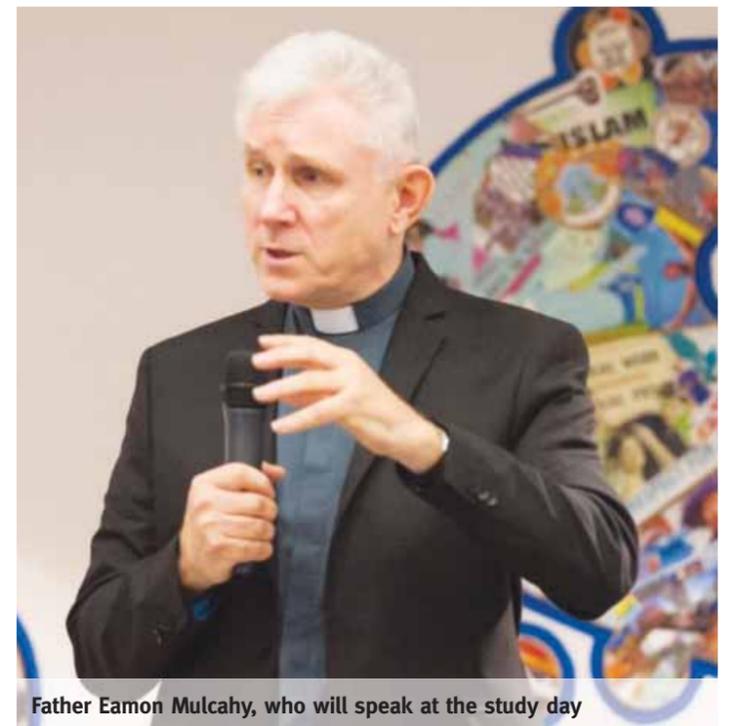
enable the clergy and parish representatives to offer witness and feedback to their parishes.

It is also hoped it will lead to benefits such as the setting up of parish groups to look more deeply into the next practical steps to be taken towards realising the Holy Father’s objectives.

Lay representatives will be chosen who are able to contribute to the Church both now and in the future.

The study day is at the Lakeside Conference Centre, York, on Saturday June 8 from 10am to 3.30pm. The cost is £25, which includes a buffet lunch.

There will be a further study day on intentional discipleship at a date to be confirmed.



Father Eamon Mulcahy, who will speak at the study day

Parish Musicians Training Day

St Mary’s Cathedral invites you to join former director of music at St George’s Cathedral, Southwark, Norman Harper, and a team of outstanding musicians for a parish musicians training day.

The event takes place on Saturday March 16 and the programme includes registration and tea and coffee at 9.30am and a welcome and keynote speech at 10am, before workshops until 5pm.

Workshops on offer include...

Choirs, composition and all things in between (led by Norman Harper) – Focuses on all things choral, including composition of music for choirs.

Pick up your instrument (led by Chris Nixon) – Explore how best to use instruments within worship. If you have

instruments, please bring them.

Singing the Lord’s song – with one man and his dog! (led by Stephen Maltby) – A series of workshops with our RSCM area secretary, which explore ways to lead and boost music within communities with very little music resource.

For everything there is some admin – Throughout the day there will be various chances to discuss with the team and others your questions about administration, such as organisation, safeguarding and music lists.

The cost of the day is £10 per person and pre-booking is essential. For further information and booking forms, please email musicdept@rcdmidd.org.uk.

March Choral Services At The Cathedral

Sunday March 3, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)

Wednesday March 6, 7pm: Ash Wednesday Mass (Cathedral Choir) – music includes Allegri’s Miserere and O for the Wings of a Dove by Mendelssohn

Sunday March 10, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)

Sunday March 10, 3pm: Rite of Election (Diocesan Choir) – music includes Cantique de Jean Racine by Fauré

Wednesday March 13, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)

Sunday March 17, 10am: Family Mass (Cathedral Choir)

Wednesday March 20, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Cantor)

Sunday March 24, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)

Sunday March 24, 4.15m: Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)

Wednesday March 27, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)

Sunday March 31, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir) music includes *Rejoice in the Lord Always* by Purcell

For more information about our choral services and music visit us online at <https://sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic>.

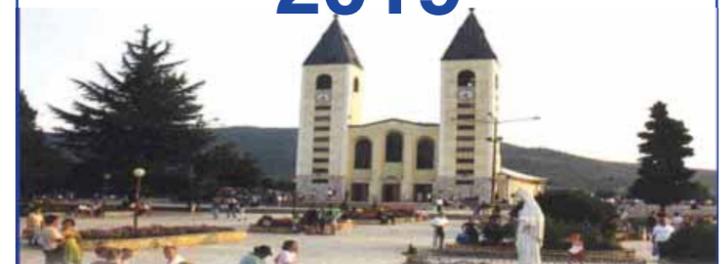
Pastoral Care Of Families In Focus

Middlesbrough’s adult formation adviser Deacon Vince Purcell will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of Cleveland Newman Circle.

The title of Deacon Vince’s talk is “Amoris Laetitia – a guide to accompaniment”, centering on the apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis on the pastoral care of families.

It takes place in St Mary’s Cathedral Hall on Wednesday April 3 from 7.45pm, with coffee and tea from 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more details call 01642 316493 or email sandamerckx@btinternet.com.

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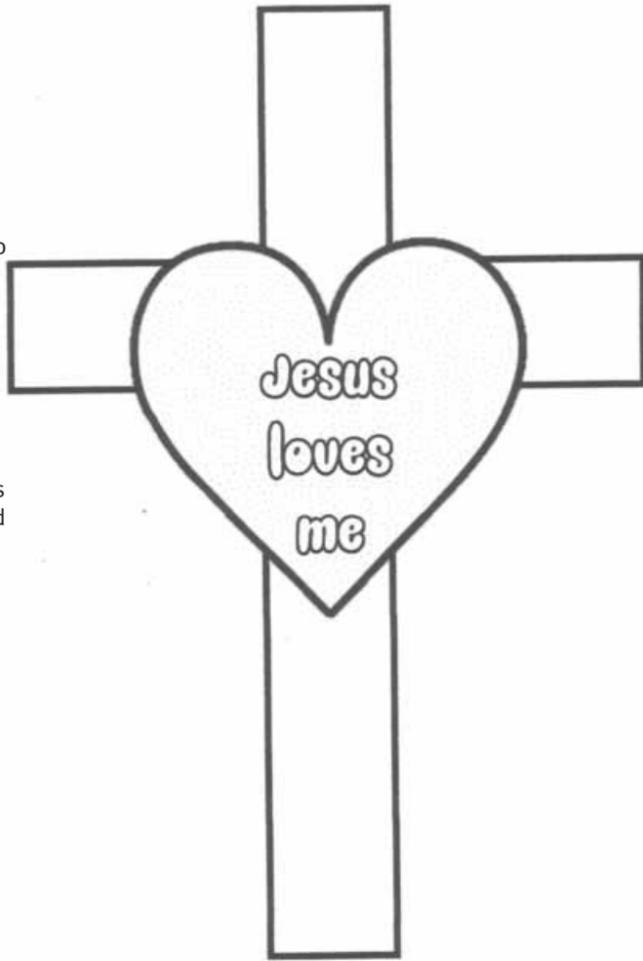
The Mysteries of the Rosary

The Sorrowful Mysteries remind us of how much Jesus loves us – so much that he gave his life for us.

The night before he died, Jesus went to a garden with his friends to pray. He was very sad and frightened because he knew what was going to happen. But he was ready to accept whatever God wanted of him. Later that night, he was arrested.

The next day, the soldiers treated Jesus very cruelly. They whipped and slapped him and put a crown of thorns on his head to make fun of him. Then they made him carry a heavy wooden cross to the top of a hill, where they crucified him.

Of course, it makes us sad to think of these terrible things happening to Jesus. But we are Christians, so we are also full of joy and hope because we know that this was not the end of the story.



Word Search

E	S	O	R	R	O	W	F	U	L
B	N	L	I	U	E	O	R	X	C
T	A	M	G	Y	T	S	I	Q	R
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- SORROWFUL
- THORNS
- GARDEN
- JOY
- JESUS
- CHRISTIANS
- CRUCIFIED
- FRIENDS
- FRIGHTENED
- LOVES
- HILL
- HOPE



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Children's Key Role In Pioneering Hospital Scheme



Children from three Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust (NPCAT) primary schools have been praised for their inspirational role in providing voluntary care for patients at the James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough.

The commendation comes from Debi McKeown, who runs the hospital's volunteer therapeutic care scheme, which provides support to enhance patients' stay in hospital.

Part of her focus is social integration and she is delighted with the links established with the schools – St Alphonsus in North Ormesby, St Thomas More, Easterside, and St Edward's, Linthorpe – as part of this strategy.

"St Alphonsus was the first school we engaged with, beginning with a visit from their Mini Vinnies group to patients in elderly care, who listened to them reading," said Debi, who is a regular volunteer herself, on our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes.

"The visit was met with great enthusiasm from both the children and the patients and was a wonderful opportunity for the generations to learn and grow together."



St Alphonsus pupils creating modern art at Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art with a group of spinal unit patients

Since then St Alphonsus have attended the hospital many times, reading, singing carols and giving out Remembrance Day poppies. They also helped the team take a group of spinal unit patients to Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art in Middlesbrough, where they created modern art together.

"The patients' feedback was tremendous," said Debi, who has been awarded the Outstanding Contribution to Patient Experience award for her work at James Cook.

"They all felt their wellbeing and mood had been lifted and it was clear that this social intervention played a valuable role in their journey."

The success of the St Alphonsus involvement was followed up by the green-fingered children of the hospital's near neighbours St Thomas More, who came and planted dozens of plants in the garden of the holistic centre, including some grown from seed in the school allotment polytunnel. Children helped select plants for spring colours and fragrance.

"They did this with such happy, smiley faces and plan to come back in the spring to tend to the plants," said Debbie. "We hope to involve our patients in these activities, too."

Last year Debi joined the NHS Nurse Ambassador programme and her challenges included visiting local schools to talk about nursing and other NHS careers, starting with St Edward's.

"The children there were so engaged and interested to hear all about the different jobs you can do in a hospital," she said.

"Involving all of them in what we do is a win-win for everyone and the benefits of this social interaction impact positively on patients, children and the wider community. They share experiences and I see this as a way of improving health, learning and understanding for all involved.

"Reflecting on these sessions has made me smile. All the staff have been so welcoming and the children so polite, it's been a privilege to be able to talk to young people who may be our nurses and health care professionals of the future. Long may their enthusiasm, laughter and joy continue!"

NPCAT chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty said the three schools were a perfect example of the trust's "Called To Serve" initiative, launched last year to build on the work schools already do to make a positive impact in their communities.

"Children develop in so many ways by taking part in worthwhile schemes such as this one, learning about themselves and the world around them, while contributing to their community at the same time," he said.

"I'm sure that both the pupils and the patients involved will cherish the memories and friendships they've made at James Cook Hospital. We hope the children will grow as individuals and the patients will be helped on the road to recovery."

For more information about the volunteer therapeutic care scheme, contact Debi by emailing debi.mckeown@nhs.net.

NPCAT was formed last year with the aim of sharing best practice and excellence within 25 Catholic schools in the north of the diocese while delivering a safe, caring environment for all its pupils and staff.



St Thomas More children planting in the garden of the James Cook University Hospital holistic centre



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NEWS

A Letter From Madonna House

Worth The Risk?



In the early hours of the morning in A&E, I was shivering with shock. But when the hot and heavy plaster was gently moulded around my broken wrist, I relaxed. Ah! I was safe in my protective casing. How grateful I was in the ensuing weeks, to have the broken bone immobilised and protected.

However, I eventually tired of my heavy shell. My hand was swollen and confined and longed to break free! Finally, the day arrived, and the plaster was cut off. My hand was mine again – free – and feeling very vulnerable. In the following days, I almost wished to have my pot back. I still cradled my left wrist, wanting to protect it from use and hurt. But I knew that to be healed, I would have to suffer pain and vulnerability – and do my exercises!

Why am I giving you this blow-by-blow account of my healing process? Because it's a perfect analogy of the journey to inner healing that we all must embrace. In childhood, we don protective masks: sometimes it's a matter of survival, other times a coping mechanism. At first, these measures are brilliant, but they eventually become constraining and sometimes destructive. Unless we meet each other in transparency, there can be no authentic exchange of love. And the self begins to die.

The solution? Allow the hard crust to be cut open, exposing the vulnerable heart. This means being honest about our feelings and beliefs. It means accepting our limitations and weaknesses and not pretending to be other than we are. It means standing before God and allowing him to reveal our identity and worth, so that nothing can unmoor us. It means admitting when we are in the wrong and asking for forgiveness – taking a risk to reach out to someone in need – being fully alive to the present moment and not living in the past or future. Over and over again, we're tempted to pull the shell back on, to be safe and hidden. But our deepest longing is to know and be known, to love and be loved. And that exchange can only take place in truth and authenticity.

So how can we find our way in this human and holy journey? Who could be a surer guide and protector than Jesus? He was born and died in naked vulnerability: first as a newborn babe, enwrapped in swaddling bands, and then dying, pinned to a cross. In his humanity, he loved without limits or barriers, but he shared in every last bit of weakness, temptation, fear and suffering that we experience.

Who better then, to gently peel away our plaster, to surround us with his protective shield of grace, to teach us how to truly love? This new way often feels risky, uncomfortable and sometimes downright painful. But with each decision to stand in truth and vulnerability, fear of rejection is melted by acceptance, weakness becomes an occasion of solidarity, loneliness gives way to communion. Our hearts gradually become transparent with radiant love.

Worth the risk?

Cheryl-Ann Smith

Drone Warfare Brings New Peace Challenges

Campaigner Chris Cole's presentation to our Justice & Peace meeting on the increasing use of drone warfare was extremely challenging.

Chris has spent his entire working life on the quest for peace and recently developed a website to inform people about the increasing use of armed drones.

Over the past decade armed British Reaper drones, remotely controlled by RAF pilots at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire, have launched hundreds of air strikes in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, as well as supporting United States' strikes.

The UK has moved from acquiring a handful of these systems for temporary use in Afghanistan to insisting they are now an essential military capability, with plans to field a fleet of 26, while investing hundreds of millions of pounds in developing more lethal and autonomous drones.

However, ethical discussions concerning the reality of drone warfare are largely absent from the public domain. Drones are seen as "risk-free" and therefore likely to dispel domestic opposition to military intervention overseas.

There has been a concerted effort to persuade the public that modern warfare is less devastating than it once was and that drone warfare virtually eliminates civilian casualties.

Chris challenged us with an alternative view that warfare is never risk-free, saying this way is more dangerous to civilians and to global peace and security. NGOs and others continue to detail large numbers of civilian casualties from air war.

It has been estimated that 28 "unknowns" are killed for every intended target of a drone attack. Senior military and security officials also believe there is a clear link between this type of military intervention and domestic terror attacks, which have increased since the advent of drone warfare.

A further consideration is the damage caused to the pilots operating these drones safely from their screens many miles away. Research points to a "PlayStation mentality", where peoples' identities are reduced to images on a screen and it's easier to "kill the bad guys" than pursue diplomacy.

But perhaps the most dangerous aspect of the rise of remote drone warfare is the two-fold way it is ushering in a state of permanent war.

Firstly, with fewer, if any troops, deployed on the ground, and drone operators able to engage in warfare from local bases and commute home at the end of the day, there is little public pressure to end interventions.

Secondly, drones can lower the threshold for the use of force. Some states are attempting to change international law norms in relation to pre-emptive strikes, moving military intervention away from being the option of last resort and making the world a more dangerous place.

To those who argue it is possible to bring peace and justice through violence, Chris quotes from Isaiah 32:17 – "Integrity will bring peace, justice give lasting security." And again from Jesus' words in Matthew's Gospel: "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy' but I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Chris blogs on the website dronewars.net.

Diocese of Middlesbrough Justice & Peace Commission



Peace campaigner Chris Cole

Parish Pays Warm Tribute To 'Soldier George'

Warm tributes have been paid to devoted St Peter's, Scarborough, parishioner George Wilson, who has passed away in hospital surrounded by his family, at the age of 98.

Born in the town in 1920, George lived his life in the Catholic faith centred on his beloved church. He attended St Peter's School and served at the convent morning Mass on most weekday mornings, continuing as an altar boy and MC until he began his wartime service as a proud Green Howard in 1939.

When he was just 19 he was part of the epic events at Dunkirk, forming part of the cordon to help an orderly evacuation in May and June 1940.

His next postings were to Cyprus, Palestine and Egypt's Western Desert, where he was captured at the Battle of Gazala in June 1942.

Three years as a prisoner of war followed. George spoke little of this time, although he did say he always felt he was being watched over and that his faith carried him



George Wilson and the war memorial at St Peter's, Scarborough

through these dark and testing times.

All his major family events were centered around St Peter's, where his parents were married, he wed his beloved wife Aileen and all his children were baptised.

George had a deep and abiding faith and his service to the church included tireless fundraising, raising money for covers to protect its stained glass windows and to resurface the car park.

But his proudest achievement was raising the funds to replace the church's war memorial, an example of his lifelong commitment to the Church and dedication to the fallen.

In 1999 his service was recognised with the award of the Benemerenti medal, of which he was quietly proud.

His last act of love, faith and courage happened at St Peter's on Remembrance Sunday. Despite his age and frailty, he found the strength and determination to lay his wreath at the war memorial he worked to have rebuilt and which meant so much to him.

His family were deeply touched that Monsignor Gerry Dasey and Father Allbert Schembri concelebrated George's funeral Mass with Canon Eddie Gubbins, three priests he cared for very much.

The service was also well attended by his family, parishioners and military representatives. Twelve military standards were paraded and the Last Post was played. Nicknamed "Soldier George" in the parish, he was an example to many through his stoicism in times of difficulty, his willingness to help others and his modest achievements.

George was a good and faithful servant who will be sadly missed. He leaves four children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

New Bishop For Our Neighbours



Bishop Robert Byrne

Pope Francis has appointed Archdiocese of Birmingham Auxiliary Bishop Robert Byrne as the 14th Bishop of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle.

He succeeds Bishop Séamus Cunningham, who has been bishop since 2009.

Bishop Byrne was born in Manchester in 1956, was ordained priest in 1985 and has been a bishop in Birmingham since 2014. He served as a prison chaplain for more than 35 years.

"I am deeply humbled by the trust Pope Francis has placed in me with this appointment," he said. "I would like to thank the people and priests of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, where I have served for the past five years and, in particular, Archbishop Bernard for his constant kindness and support."

"I look forward to making my home in the North-East, with its rich Christian heritage, and also getting to know and serve the people, deacons, religious and priests of the diocese. I ask all of you to keep me in your prayers as I pray for you."

Bishop Robert's episcopal installation will be celebrated in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, on Monday March 25.

SCHOOLS

Plans Underway For Catholic Cup

This year's prestigious Primary Schools Catholic Cup football tournament takes place on Saturday June 29 at Trinity Catholic College playing fields in Middlesbrough.

The event is the highlight of the sporting calendar for schools throughout the diocese, with more than 600 pupils regularly taking part.

As well as competitions for large and small girls' and boys' teams, there are also special prizes including the Knights of St Columba Fair Play Salver, the Bishop O'Brien Banner Award, the Catena Shield and the Mike McCullagh Memorial Cup.

Each child who takes part also receives a commemorative medal.

The tournament was started by Tony McAvoy at St Bede's in Marske back in 1997 and has continued to grow ever since.

If anyone could volunteer in any way, such as photographer or support with parking or setting up and clearing away equipment, please contact the Diocesan Schools' Service on 01642 850515 or email educationadmin@rcdmidd.org.uk.



Last year's boys' small schools competition winners St George's, York

Violin Bequest For St Mary's Student



Ros's brother Jim Norton hands the violin over to Daniela Piani

A cherished violin is in safe new hands thanks to a bequest from a former pupil of St Mary's College in Hull to a current student.

Ros Norton attended St Mary's from 1964 to 1972, when it was a grammar school for 400 girls.

There she gained a lifelong love of art, drama and music and nurtured Catholic values of respect for the dignity of every human being, irrespective of race, gender and sexuality, as well as care for those who are less fortunate.

In her professional life Ros was dedicated to the wellbeing of young people, as a youth and community worker and educator.

She set up Refugee Youth in 2002 to combat alienation and despair among young refugees, helping them work together to establish an environment of friendship and belonging through creative activities and residential experiences.

Ros moved to North Yorkshire in 2010 and the National Trust gave her the use of Bransdale Mill to continue the project for young people from Leeds, Hull and Middlesbrough.

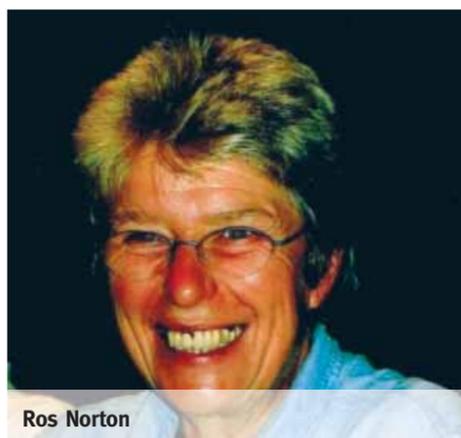
In 2017 Ros used the proceeds of the sale of her London flat to buy the Braich Goch Inn, in Corris, Wales, where she set up a similar project. Sadly, Ros died in June 2018, but the

team she assembled is continuing her work and the project will be her lasting legacy.

It was her wish that the violin she played since her St Mary's days should benefit a young person, who would gain inspiration and confidence from having a good quality instrument.

Ros would be delighted that through Daniela Piani her violin will sing on, giving pleasure and satisfaction to the year-seven student and those who hear her play.

Naomi Bedworth



Ros Norton



Excited All Saints' teachers and pupils on the coach to Young Voices in Sheffield

Golden Day Out For All Saints

Excited children and staff from All Saints Primary School, Thirsk, headed to Sheffield Arena for a fun-filled day, ending in a spectacular concert as part of the Young Voices choir.

We found our spaces in the vast arena and hung our All Saints banner proudly in front, so that parents could locate us in the 5,040-strong choir.

Lunch gave us the necessary fuel to sing our hearts out in the three-hour rehearsal that followed, as harmonies were perfected and we busted some moves.

Special guest pop stars Beau Dermott, Sharlene Hector and Tony Hadley were full of words of encouragement and praise for our eager young singers while wowing us with their spellbinding voices.

Soon, the audience started filtering in – it was showtime! Nothing could prepare us for the

electric atmosphere when the lights went down and the first bars of opening number Days boomed out. To be part of such a huge choir and fantastic production was spectacular, especially when the biggest audience we'd ever sung to was the church congregation.

For two hours we belted out numbers from Blondie and Coldplay to medleys of songs from the shows. The grand finale included songs from The Greatest Showman, fitting to end what was indeed the greatest show – the children had the most amazing day that they will remember forever.

As for the staff, we were just a little bit excited about singing the karaoke classic Gold with the one and only Tony Hadley – roll on Young Voices 2020!

Teresa Atkinson, Executive Head Teacher

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NEWS

Help CAFOD Make A Difference This Lent

Friday March 15 is CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day. Traditionally, on each of our Fast Days we ask people to have a simple meal or give what they save to CAFOD, to help fund our work among some of the poorest people in the world.

The collections we take in our parishes are our main source of funding. This Lent we are focusing on Bangladesh, a densely-populated country facing many challenges, including rising sea levels and frequent cyclones.

Most of Bangladesh's 144m people live on less than \$2 a day and depend on agriculture to make a living and feed their families. But its low-lying geography makes the country extremely vulnerable to flooding and the effects of climate change. Frequent natural disasters such as floods and cyclones and continuous river erosion cause families to lose their homes and crops.

You are already making a difference in Bangladesh – most recently in our reaction to the Rohingya crisis. More than 700,000 refugees from Myanmar have arrived and are still arriving into these camps, but our networks have been providing practical help as well as refuge for these desperate families. CAFOD is working with dedicated teams of local aid workers and volunteers to deliver food, kitchen supplies, blankets, clothing and sleeping mats to 40,000 vulnerable families. Our team on the ground have also rebuilt and strengthened 40,000 makeshift shelters for

families against the heavy rains of the monsoon season. This work has been vital.

We are very grateful for the generosity of people in our Catholic community that has enabled us to carry out this life-saving work. But there is always more need.

We know we can help more people to live life to the full and to protect our common home. Currently, we are unable to meet one in three documented requests for support received from some of the poorest people and communities, simply because we don't have the funds to do so.

We introduce Mahinur to you in our fast day materials this Lent. Mahinur lives very near the coast, in an area badly hit by climate change. Cyclones are common, salty sea water floods the rice fields, and – most devastatingly for Mahinur – a drought last year killed all the fish.

Dragging her empty net out of the river, Mahinur told us: "There should be fish in the river now but there's nothing. I have no reason to smile."

Mahinur has a disabled husband and son to support and works every hour of the day doing odd jobs for her neighbours in return for rice. It's not enough. Some days the family just drink water for dinner.

Currently, there is no happy ending to Mahinur's story. This is the situation she faces today, because we haven't been able to support her. She is the one in three.

But working through the local Church, our experts make up one of the largest aid networks in the world. Through them, your support can reach to the ends of the earth. We already know where Mahinur is. We know she needs help. And we know how to help.

That's why I'd like to ask you to consider having a simple meal on Family Fast Day and donating what you save to CAFOD.

Your donation is a lifeline. An outstretched

hand to a friend in danger.

Together, we can reach out to every single child, woman and man in God's family with love.

Together, we can change the ending of more stories like Mahinur's.

Thank You.

Carol Cross, Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Middlesbrough



Finding Faith In Service And Sacrifice

DEACON (SQN LDR) NEIL GALLOWAY MBE is currently on his first operational deployment as a chaplain, but is no stranger to military operations. He served as a communications technician the RAF for 25 years before being ordained deacon for the Diocese of Middlesbrough.

As a commissioned RAF chaplain on loan to the Bishopric of the Forces, he has served throughout the world. Here he tells us about his Christmas ministering in Cyprus and Iraq...

Christ uncovered faith in a soldier and we repeat his words at every Eucharist: "Lord I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."

I remind myself of that fact every day, especially at Christmas when I join several thousand British servicemen and women, all separated from our families during the festive season.

As chaplain on Operation SHADER, I care for the spiritual, pastoral and welfare needs of our troops engaged in the continued battle against ISIS.

I spent Christmas split between Iraq and Cyprus, two very different locations and environments, but both equally challenging and in need of the missionary work of forces' chaplains.

In the days running up to Christmas I travelled from Baghdad, Taji and then on to Erbil, visiting our troops irrespective of rank, service or faith and ensuring preparations were in place for their welfare and providing services of Eucharist and Word for Catholics from all our coalition nations, in the absence of a priest.

I spent Christmas Day at RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus with more than 500 troops, beginning with an ecumenical midnight service. Christmas morning was business as usual – the mission doesn't stop for holidays.

So, with a team of willing helpers from the headquarters' staff, we made 300 bacon sandwiches for those working and delivered them along with gift boxes, ensuring all received at least some nourishment.

Then on to our morning Mass, with army chaplain Father John Nelson travelling in to ensure we could celebrate the Eucharist, with deployed personnel, local civilians and service families joining together in our celebration.

I spent the rest of the afternoon visiting as many of our troops as possible, handing out sweets and chocolates to make sure this wasn't just another day. In the evening all came together for Christmas dinner before I hosted a quiz to finish off our day.

As people at home slept off the Christmas excesses, work continued again in our 24-hour cycle on the mission. I continued my pastoral visits to those in work and then packed my bag once again for a night flight to Baghdad and another round of visitations throughout Iraq.

The end of 2018 saw another year passed when the men and women of our armed forces were deployed around the world, another year when they sacrifice so much and another year in a foreign land.

At Christmas we celebrate the word incarnate, God made man. This year I saw our God incarnate in so many ways and in the strangest of circumstances, from those who come dirty from work to pray in a chapel tent to those who spent their morning making bacon sandwiches for their brethren working on the flight line.

Christ uncovered faith in a soldier, far from home in a foreign land, and I too see faith in the men and women of our armed forces today. They may not be churched, they may even be a little rough around the edges, but they understand service and they live sacrifice.

"Lord I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." They feed my faith and spirit as much as I feed theirs. That is why I am proud to serve with them and honoured to be their chaplain.

This article first appeared in *The Universe*.



Deacon Neil Galloway leads prayers for RAF servicemen and women

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of Middlesbrough
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Facebook: facebook.com/MiddlesbroughDiocese



Father James Angus and ship visitors with the captain and crew of the *Eco Nemesis*

AoS Responds To Urgent Mass Request

Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) in Tees Port responded to an urgent request for Mass on board a ship after one of its crew received bad news from home.

The captain of the *Eco Nemesis* asked AoS ship visitors Hugh and Mary Ward to arrange for Mass to be celebrated on the tanker the next morning.

The couple rang AoS Tees Port chaplain Deacon Peter Barrigan, who managed to contact Father James Angus of St Patrick's, Hartlepool, who had just got home from his day off.

Peter explained the seriousness of the situation and Father James agreed to come and celebrate the Mass for the crew. By 10am the next morning they were on board the ship and set up for Mass.

The captain told Peter and his team it was the first time in 20 years at sea he had had Mass on board a ship.

He also sent AoS a grateful email of thanks, writing: "It is our pleasure on board to received and having this Holy Mass specially here in our ship, we feel the Kingdom of our Almighty God that day from heaven that you came to us not only to visited us but we meet

and greet each other that would be nice and great for both of us.

"You are all really true loving kind persons to all of us seafarers on board. On behalf of officers and crew of *Eco Nemesis*, we gave thanks for your presence and kindness, we really appreciated your great effort and your boundless commitment specially for us seafarers."

Twelve days later the ship returned and Hugh and Mary found the atmosphere on board was much improved.

Hugh said: "We visited a very happy vessel and had a great hour with the crew. The master was pleased to see us and repeatedly thanked us for the Mass."

The AoS is part of an international network known to the maritime world as Stella Maris. A registered charity and agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland, it is wholly reliant on voluntary donations and legacies to continue its work.

For more information visit apostleshipofthesea.org.uk, [facebook.com/AoS.GB](https://www.facebook.com/AoS.GB), [@Apostleshipsea](https://twitter.com/Apostleshipsea) on Twitter or [Flickr.com/photos/apostleshipofthesea](https://www.flickr.com/photos/apostleshipofthesea).

Environment Corner Doing A Power Of Good

This month we are looking at energy. How can we become more environmentally friendly?

Climate change is one of the greatest environmental challenges we have ever faced, and the main cause is our dependence on fossil fuels. A positive sign is the growing concern over fossil fuels and increasing exploration of "green energy".

Green energy might have come with a premium price at one time but the costs are becoming competitive thanks to concerns over fossil fuels.

A green supply tariff is one where some or all of the electricity you buy is "matched" by purchases of renewable energy your energy supplier makes on your behalf. These could come from a variety of renewable energy sources, such as wind farms and hydroelectric power stations.

Switching to renewable energy is a practical way to respond to Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* encyclical.

It is encouraging that the majority of Catholic dioceses in England and Wales have switched to renewable energy, meaning it is now used across thousands of parishes.

It's well worth checking the available tariffs. Some smaller providers will have deals that often compete with more mainstream providers, especially those of the big six – British Gas, E.ON, SSE, Npower, EDF and Scottish Power.

Switching energy supplier has become a simple process. Useful information and advice can be found at greenenergyuk.com and ecotricity.co.uk.



Redcar beach and wind farm

Justice & Peace Commission

Ring Of Success For Ushaw

A former North-East seminary with a fascinating place in history has enjoyed a record-breaking year.

And now Ushaw, on the outskirts of Durham, is gearing up to raise its profile even higher this year by becoming the permanent home of the precious St Cuthbert's Ring.

New figures show that 43,000 people visited the cultural attraction during 2018 – up from 37,000 in 2017, 21,000 in 2016, and 7,500 in 2015.

Up to seven years ago the magnificent buildings and grounds were used for the training of priests and last year Ushaw celebrated the 450th anniversary of its founder college at Douai, in France.

Father John Marsland, president of Ushaw, said: "We are delighted by the latest figures, which show that more and more people are discovering how visually spectacular and historically fascinating Ushaw is. Given that there was a chance of Ushaw closing not very long ago, it's wonderful to see this rebirth."

Ushaw had a particularly successful festive period, with 3,500 people visiting its first Christmas Tree Festival and 1,000 attending popular annual carol services.

"What has been so lovely is the way families came to enjoy Ushaw – it really did recapture the true spirit of Christmas and acted as an antidote to all the commercialism elsewhere," added Father Marsland.

A varied programme of events including jazz and brass festivals and art exhibitions were held at Ushaw throughout 2018, and the offering is set to grow again this year.

The highlight is plans for St Cuthbert's Ring to go on permanent display, hopefully from St Cuthbert's Day on March 20. The 13th-century gold ring, with a large uncut sapphire, was left by a wealthy pilgrim at St Cuthbert's tomb in Durham Cathedral.

The ring was spirited away for safe-keeping at the time of the Reformation under Henry VIII, with some suggestions that it was taken from St Cuthbert's finger in his tomb. It ended up in a Catholic convent in Paris and, in the 1850s, with Ushaw now established, it was felt appropriate for the relic to return to County Durham.

"Ushaw will become known as 'The Home of St Cuthbert's Ring' and that will really help to put us on the map, nationally and internationally," said Father Marsland.

Other plans include commissioning chainsaw sculptor Tommy Craggs to add to the figures of the Holy Family he produced before Christmas. Following an appeal, a private donor has come forward to fund the next figure.

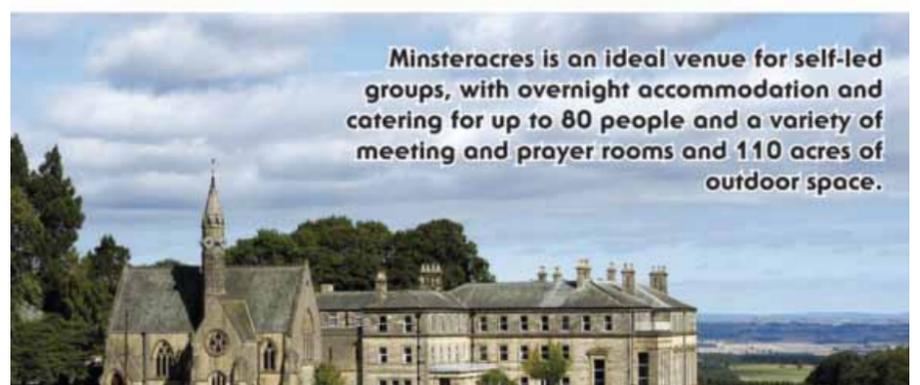
As well as historic chapels, stunning architecture and beautiful grounds, Ushaw is also becoming a craft-based business hub and has a tearoom and café called Divines, which is reminiscent of the dining room at Hogwarts in the Harry Potter books.

To find out more, visit ushaw.org.



The precious St Cuthbert's Ring

Minsteracres Retreat Centre



Minsteracres is an ideal venue for self-led groups, with overnight accommodation and catering for up to 80 people and a variety of meeting and prayer rooms and 110 acres of outdoor space.

WALKING RETREAT - MINSTERACRES TEAM

Enjoy a walk of seven to ten miles through the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres.
Saturday 9 March and Wednesday 10 April 10am – 5pm £10

QUIET DAYS OF REFLECTION DURING LENT

An opportunity to step aside read scripture and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the countryside.
13 March: Kathryn Turner, 20 March: Sheila McNamara RSCJ, 27 March: Sr Anne McCarthy RSCJ
10am – 4pm with lunch provided £20

'GOD IS RIPENING' – THE SPIRITUALITY OF 'THE BOOK OF HOURS' by Rainer Maria Rilke

Patrick Woodhouse explores poet Rainer Maria Rilke and his influential book 'The Book of Hours' and what makes for an authentic spiritual life. Influential in the writings of diarist Etty Hillesum who reconciled God with the horrors of the Holocaust. Patrick Woodhouse is a writer and Anglican Priest.
Wednesday 3 April, 10am – 4pm £30

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE – THE CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIANS - MARY COLWELL

As Christians how we can save our depleted natural world, enabling joy and sustenance to sustain all life on earth. Mary Colwell is a writer and conservationist. **Friday 10 (7pm) – Sunday 12 May (2pm) £150**

HOLY WEEK RETREAT – MINSTERACRES TEAM

Join the community on their journey with time for reflection and taking part in the ceremonies.
Thursday 18 (6.30pm) – Sunday 21 April (2pm) £190

PENTECOST RENEWAL RETREAT – Sr Maria Natella OP

A weekend of praise, worship and reflection preparing ourselves for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Sr Maria Natella is a Dominican Sister and inspiring international speaker.
Friday 7 (7pm) – Sunday 9 June (2pm) £145

For information and bookings visit www.minsteracres.org
or call 01434 673248 Email: info@minsteracres.org

NEWS

Communications Restored As New President Is Sworn In

Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel's Parish, Ormesby, in Middlesbrough, lives and works in Basankusu Diocese, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This month Francis seeks an internet connection and pancakes...

"Stay indoors over the next few weeks," directed Father Des, from our general council in Maidenhead.

Elections are often violent affairs in the Congo – but there was more to it than that and the three of us knew what he was implying. In Cameroon, one of our Kenyan missionaries was shot dead by the police while meeting refugees within the English-speaking area. Father Des didn't want a repeat of this in the Congo.

Having been alone in Basankusu, I'd taken myself to Kinshasa as a place from which to escape should things get really bad.

Just before the election day, all internet and text messaging services were cut. The elections came and went. A new president was sworn in – not necessarily the one with the most votes, but a change from the last one. I decided things were quiet enough to make my return to Basankusu – and I was bored in Kinshasa.

It was possible that the opposition would start violent demonstrations – and even more likely that the departing president would brutally put down any such uprising. However, the country had had enough of that over the years. The majority of people feel no connection to a government that doesn't actually govern – they just want to get on with their lives.

I arrived back in Basankusu to singing,

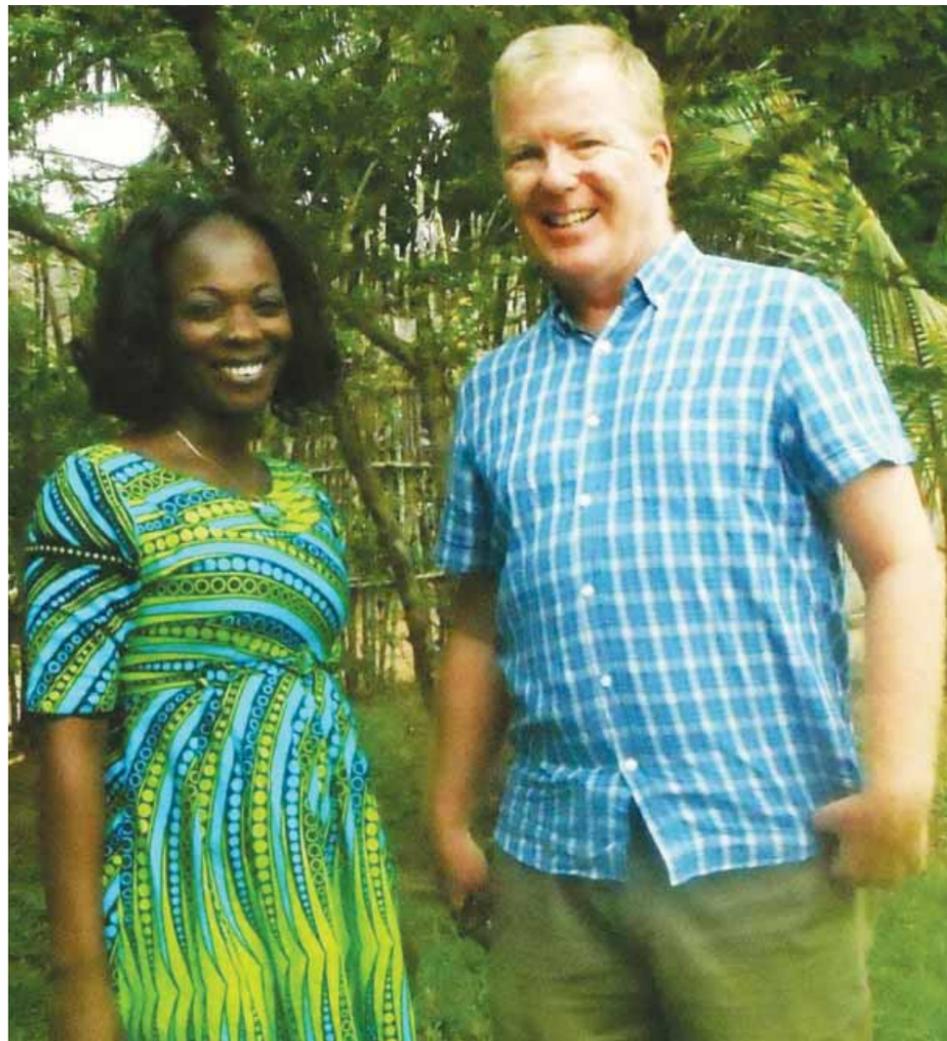
dancing and a cold beer! After four years with Mill Hill Missionaries, I'm now working directly for Basankusu Diocese. I was pleased to see only ten children at our malnutrition centre. In May, this will rise to 70.

The isolation of having no internet or text messages made me think about other things we take for granted in England. In Basankusu we consider small things to be great developments. Now we can buy chocolate spread and mayonnaise. Even four years ago, when darkness fell every evening, people lit their homes with small oil lamps – if there was no moon, the streets would be in complete darkness.

Thanks to innovators such as our Chinese trader, Huang, people have modest electric lights, run from solar panels. One politician standing in the election even left eight solar-powered street lamps in Basankusu. Satellite television has now appeared in at least 50 households in a town of 40,000 people.

The internet returned after six weeks. My shaky contact with the outside world restored, there was only one more sign of development needed – pancakes on Shrove Tuesday!

• **Follow Francis Hannaway on Facebook.** Email: francish7@yahoo.com. Donate via PayPal (type [PayPal.me/FHannaway](https://www.paypal.com/merchot?p=FrancisHannaway) into your browser), or internet banking: Pay: **St Joseph's Society for FM, Ref: F Hannaway Congo, sort code: 16-00-15, account: 23114537. Cheques to: Mill Hill Missionaries, St Joseph's Parish Centre, PO Box 3608, Maidenhead SL6 7UX. Pay: "Mill Hill Missionaries" (enclose a note to say it's for F Hannaway and request a gift aid form).**



Francis with Judith Bondjembo, who who helps him run a supplementary feeding programme for malnourished children

From the Archives



50 Years Ago

(From Bishop Wheeler's address at the funeral of Bishop Brunner)

"The beloved Bishop whose body today lies in this Church, which was his Cathedral, died peacefully on the feast of St Benedict. Bishop Brunner was born in Hull in 1889 and a great part of his life was spent in that city. As a small boy he began his studies, after primary schooling, at St Charles' Hull then at St Brendan's Academy here in Middlesbrough. Then he went on to Ushaw and took a degree in classics in Durham University. There is no doubt that George Brunner thought of himself as the least of Bishops. And yet it was this endearing humility and self-deprecation which made him stand out among his confreres. And I will give you a very clear example of this. I spent 16 years of my priestly life in Westminster Cathedral and we saw many great gatherings of the Hierarchy. On more than one occasion other priests said to me 'How fortunate those men of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire must be to have so kindly, gentle, self-effacing and lovable man for their Bishop'. The Conference of Bishops I learned later, thought just the same."

120 Years Ago

(From Bishop Lacy's Pastoral Letter for Lent 1899)

We take the present opportunity to thank most sincerely the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese, for the handsome manner in which they contributed towards the success of the Diocesan Bazaar in aid of the Boy's Orphanage. We trust to be able before long to provide a more healthy and commodious Home for the reception of our orphan boys. Whilst so much has been done for them, we should be wanting in our duty if we did not bring before your notice the needs of our orphan girls. It is now a good many years since the Poor Sisters of Nazareth with a truly noble spirit of generosity, undertook the charge of this most helpless portion of our flock. They first rented a house in Queens Terrace, Middlesbrough, and when the accommodation was found totally inadequate, they purchased, entirely on their own responsibility, a house near the park. As the work still continued to grow, they ventured to take the adjoining house, encouraged partly by the donation of a benefactor. Since then a large wing has been added with considerable outlay. Thus, in addition to the support of the orphans and the aged and infirm, they find themselves weighted with a considerable financial burden. We have great confidence that when their needs are realised, benefactors will come forward to lighten this burden.

David Smallwood



2019 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

PIETRELCINA & ASSISI EXPERIENCE

Wednesday October 2 – Sunday
October 6

Bishop Terry will lead a diocesan pilgrimage following in the footsteps of



SAINT PIO OF PIETRELCINA & SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Some Highlights:

PIETRELCINA – The village where Padre Pio was born. The visit will include Saint Pio's house, the church of Santa Maria degli Angeli, the Church of Sant' Anna and ancient village

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO – We will visit the places associated with Saint Pio's life and activities – Santa Maria delle Grazie, the new church of Padre Pio, the sanctuary where he had a famous appearance and more

ROUTE TO ASSISI – Via **LANCIANO** (Miracle of the Eucharist) there will be a guided tour of the Basilica of Santa Maria Degli Angele. We will visit St Francis' hermitage and on to **SAN DAMIANO** and the Basilica of St Clare

This is a taster of the places we will visit and experiences we will have while on this journey. Mass will be celebrated every day in some of the beautiful basilicas.

To express your interest in joining this pilgrim journey, would you please email:

Jenny Dowson on jennydowson@rcdmidd.org.uk or write to her at The Curial Office, 50A The Avenue, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT, giving your contact details. Flights are from and to Leeds-Bradford airport. Cost is £659 per person sharing based on a minimum of 40 people travelling; single supplement of £28 per night; travel insurance required and available for £29pp.

Faith Show Debuts At York Festival

“If you want to get me really blazing, just mutter that Bible stories are boring,” says Blazing Grannies theatre company Mary Callan.

Mary’s newest show, *Jottings From The Queen Of Sheba*, targets stories that are in both the Qur’an and the Bible and debuts at York Literature Festival.

“The crossover between faith stories we can share, the heritage of three faiths, seems to be the new hot topic,” says Mary, who attended a conference on the theme in London. “The atmosphere was like a joyful family reunion and I learnt a lot.”

Mary’s has tried to prepare a show that respects each tradition without provoking arguments, by concentrating on the human impact of a selection of stories, from Eve to the

Virgin Birth.

“The sacrifice of Abraham’s son is one of the important stories we share, when God tests Abraham’s obedience and then tells him to substitute a ram,” says Mary.

Mary hopes audiences will provide feedback to help her fine-tune the show before it moves on to the Edinburgh Fringe in August.

You can see *Jottings From The Queen Of Sheba* for free on Friday March 22 at 7.30pm in English Martyrs’ Hall, Dalton Terrace, when there will be an exit collection.

It will be then be performed on Tuesday March 26 at 7.30pm in St Paul’s Church, Holgate Road, tickets £5 and £3, with another free performance on Wednesday March 27



Blazing Grannies’ Mary Callan as one of Jacob’s older sons, showing us what he thinks of Joseph’s luxury coat

at 6pm in the Keregan Room, York Theatre Royal, where there will again be an exit collection.

This Month’s Clergy Anniversaries

Please pray for the following priests of our diocese whose anniversaries are during the month of March...

1	1908	Very Rev Canon James Wells	York
6	1944	Very Rev Canon Thomas Noone	Pocklington
7	2015	Rev Joseph Brennan	Enfield
8	1927	Rev Patrick Clancy	Hull
8	1927	Rev Charles Donovan	Wycliffe
8	1999	Rev James Gannon	Middlesbrough
9	2007	Very Rev Mgr Patrick Lannen	Dungarvan
10	2015	Rev Michael Murray	Carlisle
12	1934	Very Rev Canon Patrick Cronin	York
12	1951	Rev Michael McEldowney	Grangetown
14	1886	Very Rev Provost Henry Walker	South Bank
15	1932	Very Rev Canon A D’Hooghe	Thornaby
16	1908	Rev Edmund Hickey	Egton Bridge
16	1969	Very Rev Matthew O’Connell	York
17	1968	Rev Richard O’Riordan	Hull
21	1949	Very Rev Canon John Owens	Hull
21	1969	Rt Rev George Brunner Third Bishop of Middlesbrough	
21	1991	Very Rev Canon Patrick Bluett MC TD	Florida
24	1935	Rev Stephen Hines	York
26	1997	Rev Matthias Smyth	Ballyjamesduff
27	1963	Rev Eugene O’Reilly	Hedon
27	2012	Rev Hugh Curristan	Letterkenny
29	1960	Rt Rev Mgr Provost Patrick Lynn	Scarborough
30	1972	Rev Oswin Corboy BA	Scarborough

Supper Supports Missionary Work

A pie and pea supper at Christ the King church hall in Thornaby raised a magnificent £900 for the work of Francis Hannaway in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Brother Michael in Malawi. Thank you to everyone who supported the event – your generosity will make a big difference to people in those two countries. Thank you also to Francis and Michael, who do their work unselfishly as acts of kindness and expect nothing in return.

Phoebe Stewart



Father Pat O’Neill and parishioners at Christ the King’s pie and pea supper



Father Hugh Curristan

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Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH 2019

- 2 Attends Flame 2019 at Wembley Arena All day
- 5 Attends meeting of CSAN in London All day
- 6 Celebrates Mass for Ash Wednesday at St Mary's Cathedral 7.00pm
- 7 School Visit: Junior House, Ampleforth 9.00am
- 12 Attends meeting of CES & Department in London All day
- 13 School Visit: St George's Primary, York 9.30am
- 20 School Visit: St Pius X, Middlesbrough 10.00am
- 21 Attends meeting of Diocesan Safeguarding Commission 11.00am
- 25 Attends installation of Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle
- 26 Attends meeting of Bishop's Council at Bishop's House, Middlesbrough 11.00am
- 27 School Visit: St Mary Queen of Martyrs, Hull 11.00am
- 28 Attends meeting of Diocesan Board of Trustees, Curial Office, Middlesbrough 10.30am
- 29 Attends meeting of Ushaw Trustee Board, Ushaw College 11.00am
- 30 Gives the welcome at Lourdes Hospitalité Formation Event at Trinity Catholic College, Middlesbrough 10.00am
- 31 Visitation to the Venerable English College, Valladolid

1 Fri
Events and articles for the April Voice are due by today

2 Sat
11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk

3 Sun
10am Solemn Mass, St Mary's Cathedral (Cathedral Choir)
11am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

4 Mon
10.15am-11am Christian Meditation Weekly Group (10am for new meditators), St John of Beverley, Church. Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

5 Tues
7pm Knights of St Columba, Council 29, meet at St Mary's Cathedral, Dalby Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough commencing with Mass in the Cathedral chapel.

6 Wed
12 noon Midday prayer/Wednesday Word/prayer intention for March 'for all those who carry new life,' Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB

6.30pm The Secular Franciscan Order meets at More House, Heslington, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, tel (01904) 470041 for further details.

7pm Ash Wednesday Mass at St Mary's Cathedral (Cathedral Choir) – music includes Allegri's famous 'Miserere' and 'O for the Wings of a Dove' by Mendelssohn

8 Fri
7pm-8.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets in St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact John (01759) 380415 for details.

7.30pm Marian Evening at the John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough – Rosary, Holy Mass, talk, witness. Contact Marie Bedingfield, tel (01642) 530739 for details

10 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

3pm Diocese of Middlesbrough LGBT+ outreach and service; Mass giving an explicit welcome to LGBT+ Catholics, their families and friends, in the chapel of The Bar Convent, 17 Blossom Street, York YO24 1AQ. All are welcome.

3pm Rite of Election (Diocesan Choir) – music includes 'Cantique de Jean Rachine' by Fauré

5pm Latin Mass, St Mary & Joseph, Baxtergate, Hedon HU12 8JN

5pm Mass in the Malayalam language at St Thomas More's Church, Beechwood, Middlesbrough Contact tel (01642) 818203 for details.

6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

11 Mon
10.15am-11am Christian Meditation Weekly Group (10am for new meditators), St John of Beverley, Church. Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

7.30pm Justice & Peace meet at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Nan Saeki (01904) 783621 for further details

12 Tues
12.45pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull.

2pm-4pm The Life Ascending Group, York West meet at Our Lady's, Acomb, York in the Fr Kelly room.

7.30pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

13 Wed
10.30am The Life Ascending Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessle meets after morning Mass

10.30am The Life Ascending Group at St Leonard & St Mary, Malton meets

12 noon Midday prayer/Wednesday Word/prayer intention for March 'for all those who carry new life,' Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB

2-3.30pm Music for the Mind in St Mary's Cathedral hall. All welcome, especially those

suffering from dementia, their carers and friends. Contact 01642 710179 for details.

2.30pm Prayer Group, John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough. New members welcome.

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers at St Mary's Cathedral (Ladies' Schola)

7.30pm Hull Circle of the Catenian Association meet at Lazaat Hotel, Woodhill Way, Cottingham, HU16 5SX. Contact Bernard Swift (01482) 348272 for further details.

16 Sat
9.30am Parish Musicians' Training Day for all instrumentalists and singers, St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough; workshops throughout the day. For further information and booking forms please e-mail musicdept@rcdmidd.org.uk.

11am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk

7.30pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Sean Kelly admission ticket only), Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. Contact Eddie: 01642 860227

17 Sun
10am Family Mass, St Mary's Cathedral (Cathedral Choir)

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass, St Joseph's, Tanton Road, Stokesley TS9 5HN, Middlesbrough

6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

18 Mon
10.15am-11am Christian Meditation Weekly Group (10am for new meditators), St John of Beverley, Church. Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

7pm for 7.30pm York Newman Circle: Fr Colum Kelly, Regional Port Chaplain, Apostleship of the Sea: '90% of Everything', Bar Convent, Blossom Street, 7.30pm (refreshments from 7pm). Members £1, non-members £2, students free. All welcome. Contact Judith Smeaton (01904) 704525 judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for more details.

20 Wed
12 noon Midday prayer/Wednesday Word/prayer intention for March 'for all those who carry new life,' Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers (Cantor)

8pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meet at St Joseph's Church, West Hull

22 Fri
7.30pm 'Jottings from the Queen of Sheba' by F Mary Callan, English Martyrs' Hall, Dalton Terrace, York YO24 4DA, free, exit collection. Part of the three faiths show for York Literature Festival, telling stories which are in the Qur'an as well as the Bible.

23 Sat
10am-4pm Centering Prayer Workshop, St Bede's pastoral centre, York; a workshop for

Advance Notices

3 April, Cleveland Newman Circle, 7.30pm for 7.45pm, St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham 'Amoris Laetitia: A Guide to Accompaniment. But is it a satnav or a map?' Talk by Rev Vincent Purcell.

6 April, St Stephen's Neighbourhood Centre, 96 Annandale Road, Greatfield, Hull HU9 4LA 'Sharing Hope in Crisis' (register at billygraham.org.uk and enter your details)

7 April, Easter Eggstravaganza at St Thomas More's Church Hall at 1.30pm. Easter bonnet parade, tombola, raffle, cake and bottle stalls. Come and enjoy the fun with family and friends.

22 June, Union of Catholic Mothers' AGM, St Peter's, Scarborough

NEWS

Canon Blesses Tunnel Statue At Wilton

Canon Michael Loughlin, parish priest of St Andrew's, Teesville, was given the honour of blessing a statue of the patron saint of miners at the start of excavation work of a transportation tunnel to the Sirius mine at Wilton.

Sirius Minerals' chief executive officer Chris Fraser invited Canon Michael to attend the official start of excavations and bless the statue of St Barbara, which now stands at the tunnel's entrance.

When completed, the tunnel will house a 23-mile underground mineral transportation system. Up to 20m tonnes of polyhalite ore, a natural mineral used as fertiliser, will travel through the tunnel from the underground mine near Whitby to a processing plant on the banks of the River Tees.

The company expects to produce 10m tonnes per year by 2024 from a new purpose-built facility in the shadow of the blast furnace at Redcar, creating 1,000 long-term jobs.



Canon Michael Loughlin with the statue of St Barbara, area project director Duncan Smith and Councillor Sue Jeffrey – photo courtesy of Richard Doughty Photography, York

Thank You From The SVP

The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank members and supporters for their generosity and hard work.

Last year our diocesan SVP sent more than £17,910 to support people overseas, including £8,500 to the Kerala appeal, although the full amount is much higher as individual members and conferences also sent in money directly. The total raised for the appeal by the SVP in England and Wales is £391,500.

We also sent £8,030 to support twinned

conferences in India and Sudan and £1,380 to special projects in poor areas overseas, with another £1,960 promised.

We provided £330 for student sponsorships and £1,050 for homeless packs for the John Paul Centre in Middlesbrough, Hull homeless, three parishes, food banks, street angels, asylum project and the Apostleship of Sea.

Many conferences take regularly contribute to food banks and the CAUSE hamper appeal and carloads of goods are regularly brought

to the SVP shop at Belle Vue, Middlesbrough, from as far away as York and Richmond.

In addition to this financial help, SVP members also offer befriending within their parishes, including visits and phone calls, giving lifts to church, medical appointments and shopping and liaising with the authorities when needed.

We could not do this alone without your support, so thank you all.

Frances Gilchrist, SVP President

those who may already practice centering prayer and also those who are drawn to silent prayer and would like to explore. Contact admin@stbedes.org.uk, 01904 464900

24 Sun

10am Solemn Mass at St Mary's Cathedral (Cathedral Choir)

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

4.15pm Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)

6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

April Catholic Voice available from churches

25 Mon

10.15am-11am Christian Meditation Weekly Group (10am for new meditators), St John of Beverley, Church. Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

1.30pm/2pm Solemnity of the Annunciation, Rosary 1.30pm/Mass 2pm, Lady Chapel, Mount Grace, Osmotherley

26 Tues

7.30pm 'Jottings from the Queen of Sheba' by F Mary Callan, St Paul's Church, Holgate Road, York YO24 4BF, tickets £5/£3. Part of the three faiths show for York Literature Festival, telling stories which are in the Qur'an as well as the Bible.

27 Wed

12.45pm-3pm Life Ascending Group, York Central meets at St Wilfrid's, York in the Upper Room after 12.10pm Mass
12 noon MIDDAY prayer/Wednesday Word/prayer intention for March 'for all those who carry new life,' Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers at St Mary's Cathedral (Ladies' Schola)

6pm 'Jottings from the Queen of Sheba' by F Mary Callan, Keregan Room, York Theatre Royal, free, exit collection. Part of the three faiths show for York Literature Festival,

telling stories which are in the Qur'an as well as the Bible.

28 Thur

7.30pm-9pm The Pastoral Support Group for carers especially of people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact Margaret (01642) 865668 for venue and other details

29 Fri

7pm Marian Prayer Group, St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Pat (01482) 802483 for details

31 Sun

10am Solemn Mass at St Mary's Cathedral (Cathedral Choir), music includes 'Rejoice in the Lord Alway' by Purcell

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

April Catholic Voice available from churches

Copy Deadline

Copy and photographs for inclusion in the Catholic Voice should be sent to:

The Editor, Middlesbrough Diocesan Catholic Voice, Curial Offices, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT.

Tel (01642) 850505,

email catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

By Friday 1 March 2019 for the April issue

By Friday 5 April 2019 for the May issue

Where possible please send articles in Word and photographs as jpegs.

Please confirm when you send in your photographs that those who appear in them have given their permission for publication.

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Date of Draw – 4 February 2019

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2nd Prize - £50 Winning No 73

3rd Prize - £30 Winning No 19

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LOURDES



Head nurse Stephen McKenna, left, with pilgrims at one of our Lourdes services

Join Our Hospitalité Team!

If you've ever thought about coming to Lourdes as a helper, now is the time to act.

Our team of nurses consists of qualified nurses in current registration and pharmacists and physiotherapists with valuable experience, along with health care assistants.

Qualified nurses in current registration with the Nursing Midwifery Council will be responsible for duties such as the administration of medicines and assessing and planning care for our supported pilgrims.

Nursing students can also work as volunteers in Lourdes and a reflection of this unique experience of holistic care could be included in your portfolio.

You'll find out why so many nurses return to Lourdes year after year. We guarantee it will be a life-changing experience!

For more information, email Stephen McKenna at headnurse@rcdmidd.org.uk.

Men who are interested in joining us as brancardiers should contact Tony Kirk at headbrancardier@rcdmidd.org.uk, while those wishing to come as handmaids can email Chris Tillotson at headhandmaid@rcdmidd.org.uk.

Lourdes stalwarts Honoured

Two of our Lourdes stalwarts were named in the Queen's New Year honours list.

Former head brancardier Paul Griffiths, who founded engineering firm IMH, was awarded an MBE for services to engineering skills and apprenticeships in Teesside.

Pat McBride, who brought groups from Newlands School FCJ for many years and runs the CAUSE Christmas hamper appeal, was

awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community.

Paul and Pat are past recipients of Middlesbrough & Teesside Philanthropic Foundation's Teesside Hero Award in recognition of their selfless charity work and are pictured here receiving their trophies.

Warmest congratulations from all your friends in our Lourdes family.



Paul Griffiths, holding his trophy



Pat McBride

Generous Donations In Geraldine's Memory



Geraldine Mills, right, with a young helper in Lourdes

Generous mourners at the funeral of Geraldine Mills donated £1,086 in her memory to the Lourdes sick fund.

Geraldine, who has been a supported pilgrim in recent years along with her husband Gordon, passed away in January. Brancardiers formed a guard of honour outside her funeral in the Sacred Heart Church, Middlesbrough.

Bridget Tasker, who was from York but was living in Omagh, Northern Ireland, also died in January. Bridget was the widow of former Lourdes brancardier Tony Tasker.

We remember Geraldine and Bridget and all former pilgrims who have died in our prayers. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for them.

Time To Book For Lourdes

Booking forms are available for our 66th pilgrimage to Lourdes, from Friday May 24 to Friday May 31.

If you haven't had a pilgrimage brochure and would like one, call our tour operator Joe Walsh Tours on 0161 820 8790 or book online at joewalshstours.co.uk.

For a Supported Pilgrim application form, email secretary Pat Ling at lourdessecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk or call 01642 760105.

Important note: Your passport must be valid for six months on the day of travel, so if yours is due to expire before the end of November 2019, you will need to apply for a new one.

Make A Date For Formation Day

This year's Day of Formation for our Hospitalité is on Saturday March 30 at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough, with registration from 9am.

The day forms a major part of our pilgrimage preparation and the varied programme includes the mandatory aspects of our training and offers a chance to spend a day with our teams. Lunch is provided and we end the day with the celebration of Mass.

"Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things."
- Psalm 119:18



Theo has spent his childhood in darkness, but you can help children like him. Give before 14th May 2019 and every £1 you donate to our See the Way appeal will be doubled by the UK government.

Dear Middlesbrough Voice reader,

As a fellow Christian, I want to share with you how incredibly powerful it is to witness a child seeing for the first time, after eye surgery.

As we carry out our work at Christian Blind Mission, we are constantly moved by the astonishment and wonder on the faces of children when the bandages are removed and they get their first clear look at their smiling loved ones.

You can help this happen for more children. Until 14th May 2019, your donations to our See the Way appeal will be doubled by the UK government. So your gift could help twice the number of children See the Way to a brighter future.

The photo to the right shows 2-year-old Theo from Rwanda, East Africa, who has cataracts that leave him barely able to see. But cataracts are straightforward to treat. Surgery taking just 45 minutes could restore his sight.

Just think, in this short time his entire life can be transformed. Instead of living with darkness and confusion he could have light, colour and a future filled with opportunity. He could go to school and one day find employment that would allow him to **See the Way** out of poverty.

Cataract removal surgery costs £95, but families like Theo's can barely afford even basic necessities, so I am turning to you in the hope that you can help.

You could open a child's eyes to the beauty of God's creation. And we'll send you an update on Theo's surgery.

God bless you,

Rebecca

Rebecca Molyneux
CBM Programme Manager



Theo has been living his life in darkness, due to his cataracts



When he tries to walk or run, he bumps into things



Your gift could help children see and transform lives

Every day, people in the world's poorest places become needlessly blind because of conditions that can be easily treated. Donate today and your gift is multiplied x2.
Until 14th May 2019, the UK government will match all public donations to our See the Way appeal.



Yes, I will give £95 to help a blind child see the wonder of God's creation.

I will give: £95 My choice amount of: _____

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We will send you an update on Theo's surgery. We'd love to keep you informed about our life-changing work and how you can support it by making a donation. By giving your email address or phone number below you give CBM UK consent to contact you using these methods:

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We like to contact our supporters with postal fundraising messages and updates from the projects we support. If you do NOT want to receive such messages from CBM UK in the future please contact us on 01223 484700 or email info@cbmuk.org.uk. You can update your contact preferences or unsubscribe at any time. You can view our privacy policy at www.cbmuk.org.uk/privacy.

Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RSKK-HXAX-CYGZ, CBM, Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Oakington, Cambridge CB24 3DQ

Public donations will support CBM's work preventing blindness and transforming lives wherever the need is greatest. Match funding from the UK government will improve access to sight-saving eye-health services in Rwanda.



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We will need your name and address to claim the additional 25% of your donation from Gift Aid.

Call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today. THANK YOU.

NEWS

Best Feet Forward For Billy's Room

Pupils, teachers and staff at St Joseph's Primary School in Middlesbrough danced the day away to raise an incredible £3,700 for baby bereavement charity Billy's Room.

The school held a Baby Blue Dress Up Danceathon Day, encouraging children to wear blue and strut their stuff on the dancefloor.

Billy's Room was set up by staff and students at Thornton Academy of Performing Arts, which runs St Joseph's gymnastics and after-school clubs and also helped organise the danceathon.

The academy is raising money to provide a new dedicated bereavement space in James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough, where parents who have endured the loss of their baby during or after birth can have the opportunity to spend time together in peace and privacy.

"This is a fantastic achievement for the pupils and staff at St Joseph's," said Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty.

"I'm delighted to see our schools engaging in their local communities in line with our 'Called To Serve' initiative, launched in December last year. Giving back to our communities is a key part of our Catholic ethos and I hope this contribution helps the charity move closer to making Billy's Room a reality."

To find out more about the charity, visit membership.coop.co.uk/causes/27464.



Children from St Joseph's at their danceathon for the Billy's Room appeal

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